Means and Methods

Systematic Calling

Dr. Boyd, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Detroit, addressed to each of his parishioners recently a letter beginning:

"I am a landing net service."

The term used would probably suggest to most readers the idea that Dr. Boyd was arranging for a revival meeting, but that was not what he had in mind. The letter went on to explain specifically as follows:

"I am seeking men and women who will promise to make at least five visits, if so requested, during the next six months, upon designated persons whose names will be supplied by the pastor.

"Such calling will not be just general, promiscuous visiting, but in every case there will be some fitness in the request.

"The persons to be visited are for the most part strangers who are interested in our congregation, and who can be definitely attached to the church when they feel the touch of a kindly interest.

"Then there are 'shut-ins,' the sick, the lonely and members who feel unacquainted, all of whom should receive, from time to time, those sympathetic attentions which Jesus so graciously points out as the duty of his followers.

"The visits, so far as possible, will be requested in accordance with those affinities and social contacts which will make the approach of a visitor natural and pleasing. Neighbor will call upon neighbor, business men upon those whose offices are near their own. The whole system will be planned to make the work as simple and easy as possible.

"Long experience has demonstrated the efficiency of this method of building up a church, and upon that ground I ask your help."

Three cards were prepared to help in working out this plan. The first read thus:

The Pastor may count on me for five friendly visits in the congregation during the year beginning.....

Name.....

Address.....

Sign and return to REV. JOHN H. BOYD,
506 Woodward Avenue.

The other cards were printed in the fashion of a return postcard. One was for the message of the pastor to the member who had agreed to serve as part of the "Landing Net"; the other was for the return of a report on the service. They were in this form:

Please call upon

....

Remarks..... .....

Rev. John H. Boyd,
506 Woodward Ave.

Dear Sir:

I called upon..... .....

on..... .....

Remarks..... .....

Vividness is added to the whole scheme by using on every piece of literature connected with it—both letters and cards—a well-drawn cut of a fisherman's dip net catching up a fish well hooked on the fisherman's line. The phrase "Landing Net Service" is displayed prominently also on all the printed matter.

THE GLIMPSE, by Arnold Bennett, is anot
thor of "An Old Wives' Tale," about which th
not yet done talking. The new novel deals
unmoral in their attitude toward life. The b
of the book are handled in the French manne
adroitness and charm. The style in general r
of Joseph Conrad, but with more lightness a
tractiveness. It is the middle of the book wh
Here a man's soul leaves the body. He feels h
his body on the bed, he sees the commonplac
about him, he hears all the nocturnal stir
other people's houses and hearts. He can eve
of thoughts in people's minds. He wishes to
wife's longing thoughts impede him. Then he i
in a wonderful palace of literature that yet ha
then comes the glimpse—incarnations, other ra
divine, and after that a call away from the ine
return to life. The writing certainly seems r
the book as a whole is exceedingly interesting
Company, New York. $1.50.

ANN VERONICA, by H. G. Wells. The heroi
who revolts. A student in a scientific institut
father's refusal to permit her to go to a rathe
don with some Bohemian friends, and leaves ho
living. She refuses the hand of a decent sort
her elder, on the excellent ground that she do
she gets in trouble with another man of whom
because he expects something from her that s
she falls in love with one of the married prof
who is not living with his wife, and they deci
gether without reference to the conventions.
is wondering how they are going to face the
the story abruptly ends, to be taken up seve
the pair appear to have satisfied all the conve
pily married. It is altogether likely that the
the situation in which Ann and her young ma
but it leaves Mr. Wells open to criticism.
New York. $1.50.

THE BEGGAR IN THE HEART, by Edith
ert always writes books of charm and distinc
Beggar in the Heart." The scenes are set
chief character is an American woman, Ty
for short Petty-Zou. After spending her ear
an uncle, meeting all sorts of interesting pe
at last on a tiny income in a slum part of Lo
has gray-gold hair, but she is as adorable a
Indeed, every one who knows her well, poor
care of her as if she were a child. That is
sponsible, so whimsical though generous, in h
ing. There is a lord who wants to marry
the title of the book applies. Every page in
acter and every incident are worth going ove
and Company, New York. $1.50.

SURE DART, by Frederick A. Costello. Th
Story of Strange Hunters and Stranger Game
sters." But he is forced into a prefatory ex
nature, pointing out that human beings were
monsters he depicts and that 200,000 years ela
eras. Furthermore, the monsters here repres
with man were not even coeval with one an
says, the book is correct. But this means nc
practically every one of its readers will be
arise from its perusal with impressions wholl
nearly all the action of the volume. [A. C. M
Chicago. $1.25.

YOUR CHILD AND MINE, by Anne Warn
stories make up this pleasant volume, the onl
ing the attitude toward children. French a
are involved almost as much as our America
idea centralizing the whole appears to be th
of child nature everywhere. Mrs. Warner h
she makes her points so clearly to the adult
youthful intellect can hardly fail to be inter
and Company Boston. $1.50.

JUST FOR TWO, by Mary Stewart Cuttin
always be relied on to produce stories which